

full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to make and use the invention, or as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention; specifically, the Examiner contends that the term "housing" in claims 1-13 has no antecedent support in the specification.

Claims 2-13 were further rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being vague and confusing. The Examiner contending that claims 2-13 set forth a double recitation of the same structure previously identified in claim 1, and more specifically the Examiner contends that the "oxidant afterburner injector" of claim 2 is inherently part of the "afterburner oxidant injection means" of claim 1.

Claims 3-13 were further rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as being unwarranted by the disclosure; the Examiner contends that the temperature sensor was not indicated in the descriptive portion as part of the afterburner oxidant injection means.

These rejections and objections are respectfully traversed in view of this amendment.

Claim 1 has been amended to redefine the element "housing" as a "tank" which has antecedent support in the specification at page 4, lines 6-7, et al. Claims 1-13 have been amended to change the reference to "tank" in the preamble to "apparatus" for clarity. It is submitted that claim 1 as amended overcomes the Examiner's 35 USC § 112 rejection.

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Dependent claim 2 has been amended to provide additional elements to claim 1 instead of redefining the "afterburner oxidant injection means" of claim 1. Accordingly, the element "afterburner oxidant injector" has been deleted from claim 2, and further references to this element in the remainder of claim 2 and in claims 3-13 have been changed to "afterburner oxidant injection means." It is submitted that claim 2 as amended is allowable. In view of these amendments, it is suggested that claim 3 overcomes the Examiner's 35 USC § 112 rejection because the temperature sensor of claim 3 is no longer made a part of the afterburner oxidant injection means. Claims 4-13 are dependent from claim 3 and are allowable by dependency.

The specification has been amended on page 1 to more specifically refer to certain copending patents as suggested by the Examiner.

The specification has been amended on page 5 by referencing additions to FIG. 1. This is in strict compliance with the Examiner's suggestions. No new matter is involved.

Informal drawing changes, marked in red, are submitted as Attachment A. Corrected formal drawings will be submitted when the application is allowed.

It is submitted in view of these remarks that all grounds for rejection and objection have been removed by the foregoing amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are therefore earnestly solicited.

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The Examiner is invited to phone Michael J. McGowan,
attorney for Applicant, 401-841-4736, if in his opinion such
phone call would serve to expedite the prosecution of subject
patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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